

ADRIENNE GOLDBERG/The Breeze

SGA President Larson Thune listens during the first official meeting of the year Tuesday.

SGA Reacts to William & Mary Scandal

Student leader steps down after superfluous spending

By MEGAN WILLIAMS
The Breeze

The tables have turned for Zach Pilchen, former Student Assembly vice president at the College of William and Mary. The senior resigned from his position on Tuesday, after admitting to using SA funds for personal purchases.

Almost a year ago Pilchen brought to light Brandon Eickel's plagiarizing of most of his and Valerie Hopkins's campaign platform. Pilchen served as president last year while Hopkins was vice president. However, this year Pilchen served as vice president before his resignation; Hopkins is the current SA president.

Eickel served as president of James Madison's Student Government Association in 2006-07 before being re-elected. He resigned and apologized for the incident last September, just weeks into his second-term (William & Mary's SA is the equivalent of JMU's SGA).

Pilchen contacted Eickel last year, asking him to take down his Web site, which displayed the stolen platform followed by "copyright 2007 Eickel for president," and requested that he explain the situation to The Breeze. Pilchen was worried that he and Hopkins would look like plagiarists if Eickel didn't admit to his wrongdoing.

Eickel's obliged and the election of Lee Brooks as SGA president followed.

Now Pilchen has found himself in the midst of another scandal, this time his own.

"It's an interesting turn of fate," Brooks said before

See SA, page 4

SGA Notes

At Tuesday's SGA meeting the Finance Committee presented two bills that would possibly affect student organizations' allocation of funds in the future. Because the bills would require an amending of the SGA's constitution, a two-week waiting period is required before any further steps are taken on it. This will give senators time to consider any concerns they may have with the bills.

Jeff Watson, head of the Finance Committee, was hoping to have

See NOTES, page 4

Alumnus Abducted, Murdered



Thomas Bryne was 40 years old, married and the father of four sons. The investigation into his murder is ongoing.

1989 Bluestone yearbook photo.

DEA agent was finance major and Lambda Chi Fraternity Brother

Staff Reports

Drug Enforcement Agent and JMU alumnus Thomas J. Bryne ('91) died after being attacked, severely beaten and mugged while walking to his New Orleans hotel on Aug. 28. Authorities believe Bryne was abducted as his body was found 40 blocks away from his hotel, where he was staying while attending a conference.

After being found on the road at an intersection by a passerby, Bryne was rushed to the hospital where after multiple surgeries, he died of his injuries on Aug. 30. The investigation into Bryne's death is being led by the New Orleans Police Department with help from the U.S. Marshalls and the FBI. Two people, Joseph Miller and Ameal Parker, have been arrested after being linked to Bryne's stolen credit cards.

Byrne, who died at the age of 40, is survived by his wife Maureen and his four sons: Tommy (age 8), Joseph (age 6), Matthew (age 4) and Michael (age 2). He is also survived by his parents, Retired Dea Special Agent Thomas G. Bryne and Joan Bryne of Fairfax.

Born in the Bronx, N.Y., Bryne attended JMU and graduated with a degree in finance. While attending JMU Bryne was a member of the Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity. In 1992 he joined the DEA as an intelligence research specialist assigned to the financial and special intelligence section. In 1996 he became a special agent for the DEA and was assigned to the Miami field Division. Bryne's last assignment was as a group supervisor in Houston.

The Breeze was alerted to this tragic news by another alumnus, Chris Cosgriff ('99), the chairman of The Officer Down Memorial Page, Inc., a non-profit organization dedicated to honoring fallen law enforcement officers.

MASSive Game

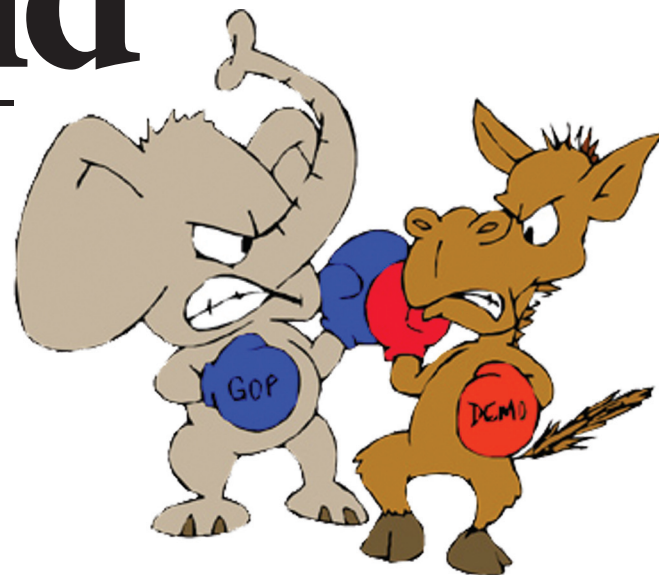


JMU hosts UMass Saturday at 3:30 p.m. Sports, Page 13

ELECTION '08

Battleground VIRGINIA

Commonwealth's swing-state status attracts the full force of both campaigns



McCain-Palin ticket hits Fairfax, draws largest crowd yet

By CHRISTIAN YINGLING
Broadside (George Mason University)

FAIRFAX — The excitement was palpable at Vann Dyke Park in Fairfax, Va. this morning at a rally attended by Republican Presidential and Vice Presidential Nominees John McCain and Sarah Palin.

"I look forward to seeing the environment here because Northern Virginia is primarily always Democrat," said Chris Brooks, a junior at George Mason University. "It made me excited to know I'm not one of [only] 20 Republicans up in here."

Today, a lot more than 20 Republicans showed up. According to McCain's campaign there were 23,000 people in attendance but according to University Police 25,000 came. Either of these counts more than doubles the population of the City of Fairfax.

"[This is] the largest turnout for Sen. McCain so far on the campaign route," said Rob Lederer, mayor of Fairfax City.

McCain's campaign took advantage of the large crowd and distributed names and phone numbers of potential voters. During the rally, Orson Swindle, who was a prisoner of war at Hanoi Hilton with McCain, directed the crowd to participate in a mass phone bank by calling their assigned potential voters during the rally and campaigning on behalf of the McCain, Palin ticket.

See MCCAIN, page 5

Obama defends alleged Palin gaffe, addresses education

By PATRICK AUSTIN
Mace & Crown (Old Dominion University)

NORFOLK — Sen. Barack Obama addressed the recent criticisms brought forth by Sen. John McCain's campaign regarding Obama's "lipstick on a pig" comment. Obama's response took place during a private forum focused on education.

"Enough!" Obama shouted. "I don't care what they say about me. But I love this country too much to let them take over another election with lies and phony outrage and swift boat politics."

The criticism from McCain's campaign stemmed from the notion that Obama was insulting Republican vice presidential nominee, Gov. Sarah Palin.

Palin made a joke during her nomination speech stating, "What's the difference between a hockey mom and a pit bull? Lipstick."

Obama described the outrage from the McCain campaign regarding the "lipstick" comment as "phony and foolish."

Obama went on to say, "You know who ends up losing at the end of the day? It's not the Democratic candidate. It's not the Republican candidate. It's you, the American people."

Obama blasted McCain on his education record.

"John McCain has been in the Senate for decades and hasn't introduced any meaningful legislation on education," Obama said.

See OBAMA, page 5

Media Coverage Missing Important Issues?

By KATIE THISDELL
The Breeze

Media personalities from Jon Stewart to Tim Russert, and Tina Fey to Rush Limbaugh have shared opinions on the current presidential election. Whether proclaiming that Barack Obama is not "black enough" or arguing that Sarah Palin could be a heartbeat away from the presidency, they are responsible for informing American

citizens of important issues.

However, Jennifer Pozner, founder of Women in Media and News a media analysis, education and advocacy group, believes that too often media covers style over substance. On Tuesday evening at James Madison University, she debuted a multimedia presentation about the media's effects on the current election cycle titled "When Anchormen Attack." Though the University Program Board event had a small audience, Grafton-Stovall was filled with the voices of the major names in media.

"When women and people of color are candidates, they are subject to a slate of stereotypical double standards that hinder their ability to be elected separate from their legislative abilities or their policy records at all," Pozner said during her presentation. "This is certainly the case in election 2008."



AMY GWALTNEY/The Breeze

Jennifer Pozner spoke at Grafton-Stovall about candidate portrayals in media.

See MEDIA, page 4

City Republicans Gain Momentum

By AMY PASSARETTI
The Breeze

Presidential candidates in this year's election have shown increasing interest in Virginia — a traditionally conservative state, now considered a pivotal battleground. The McCain campaign, which just opened an office off Neff Avenue Friday, hopes to continue to reel in voters, noting Rockingham County as a key hot spot.

"This is the grassroots," Michael Gano, field director of McCain's Harrisonburg campaign, said. "This is the heart and these are the people in this area."

The Republican Party in Harrisonburg, along with James Madison University's College Republicans, have already taken initiative in campaigning through door-to-door, phone banking, and putting up McCain signs, according to Gano. Even before the office's official opening, there were interested people coming in to volunteer.

"We've gotten phenomenal response," Gano said.

There are about 30 students from the College Republicans that are taking their time to volunteer and feel that it's really the

See GOP, page 5



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World & National News

North Korean Leader's Illness Raises Suspicion

The Washington Post

TOKYO — The chief of the South Korean National Intelligence Service said Wednesday that North Korean leader Kim Jong Il probably suffered a cerebral hemorrhage last month.

Briefing a parliamentary committee in Seoul, the intelligence chief, Kim Sung-ho, said that Kim Jong Il's condition is "manageable" and that he can be expected to recover, according to Won Hye-young, a member of the assembly who listened to the briefing.

"Although he is not in a state to walk around, he is conscious... We understand that he can control the situation and he is not in an unstable condition," the intelligence chief told the lawmakers.

The National Intelligence Service also reported to the committee that it obtained reports showing Kim recently had surgery for an unspecified circulatory problem and his condition had much improved, an unnamed intelligence official told the Associated Press.

U.S. intelligence sources said Tuesday that Kim, 67, had a stroke in mid-August and might be seriously ill. Kim's no-show on Tuesday night at an important anniversary parade in the North Korean capital of Pyongyang raised concerns around the world about his health, the stability of

his totalitarian government and the fate of stalled negotiations to end the country's nuclear weapons program.

The No. 2 leader in North Korea told a Japanese news agency Wednesday that Kim is fine, and a top North Korean diplomat characterized reports of Kim's ill health as a "conspiracy plot."

In South Korea, where there are legions of government, academic and journalistic observers of North Korea, a consensus emerged Wednesday: Kim, who has a history of heart ailments, probably had a serious health setback in August, but the worst seems to be over.

The South Korean government said it was on "high alert" as it tried to figure out what had happened to the leader of the totalitarian state that has repeatedly threatened to reduce its neighbors to ashes. The South, though, reported no unusual movement of troops in the North or increased military radio traffic that would suggest a dictatorship in disarray.

"Kim has a tendency to drop out of sight when there is a tough decision to make," said Brad Glosserman, executive director of the Pacific Forum of the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Honolulu.

What is known with certainty is that Kim does face tough decisions about allowing outside verification that his government, which two years ago exploded a small nuclear device, is indeed abandoning

its nuclear ambitions.

North Korea said it would establish an authority with the power to reinvestigate the abduction of Japanese citizens in the 1970s. The Japanese government, in turn, promised to ease sanctions on North Korea and allow its citizens to visit Japan.

Last week, however, North Korea backed out of that deal, even though substantive progress on the abductee issue could lead to the release of up to \$10 billion that Japan has pledged as reparations to the impoverished country for colonial occupation between 1910 and 1945.

These reversals have fueled speculation by U.S. officials that there might be a power struggle inside Kim's government, with the North Korean military opposing nuclear disarmament and diplomatic engagement — and taking advantage of their leader's ill health as a way to derail both.

But a number of analysts, in Japan, South Korea and the United States, say that there is an alternative explanation for why North Korea is digging in its heels on denuclearization and regional diplomacy — one that has little to do with Kim's health.

At this stage of six-party negotiations, North Korea has to agree to a strict verification regimen it is to be removed from a U.S. list of states that sponsor terrorism and become eligible for assistance from lending agencies such as the International Monetary Fund.

What are your thoughts on the proposed idea to allow concealed carry on campus?

- a. I support permit holders to carry guns on campus.
- b. I would not feel safe if guns were allowed on campus.
- c. I think it would prevent school shootings.
- d. It doesn't matter to me either way.

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MISSION

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photo illustration by BROOKE HOLLABAUGH/The Breeze

September 11th: Seven Years Later

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — The Pentagon Memorial was designed in a studio on Amsterdam Avenue in Manhattan, but not the kind with skyline views or a brass nameplate on the office door. No, the 280-square-foot studio apartment where Keith Kaseman and Julie Beckman were living at the time was decidedly more modest than that.

Kaseman and Beckman were a young couple barely out of graduate school in 2002 when they made the rough sketches of what would become the nation's first major September 11th memorial. Their lone architectural collaboration to that point had been a loft bed, which let them cram their desks and computers into their apartment's shoebox-like confines.

Their imaginations, though, had moved on to bigger things. The still-raw images and emotions of Sept. 11, 2001, had hung over the city and their lives since they watched the towers fall. They had seen a Web site about a worldwide design competition for a memorial at the Pentagon, one that would consider any entry and judge blindly, unconcerned with famous names or industry status.

It seemed like a way out, at least for them and maybe for others, too, from under a pall.

Beckman and Kaseman's proposal landed in a pile with 1,125 other entries from more than 65 countries — big firms and unproven dreamers like them. Where death and anger and sorrow had left deep scars, Beckman and Kaseman envisioned something redemptive; a memorial that could be at once collective and individual. A single, elegant form. Natural elements like trees, water and stone. Somewhere to sit and think that would be respectful and open, solemn yet stirring.

A place like no other, they told each other.

Beckman got the phone call in late February 2003 from the Army Corps of Engineers. "You guys are the winners," the woman on the phone told her.

Beckman couldn't remember anything she said after that. And it would only get more surreal.

Within days they were en route to meet with Pentagon officials and stand before the TV cameras for a news conference. They did not even have a name for their design firm, so they thought of their tiny apartment and called it Kaseman Beckman Amsterdam Studio, KBAS for short.

Nearly six years later, Kaseman, 36, and Beckman, 35, are married and living in Philadelphia. Beckman teaches at the University of Pennsylvania; Kaseman teaches

at Penn State and at Columbia University. They still call their firm KBAS, only now it is an abbreviation for Kaseman Beckman Advanced Strategies. They can't even use the word architects in the title of their firm because they never finished their formal internships.

Still, their careers have come a long way from Amsterdam Avenue, professional growth commensurate with the responsibility of a \$22 million project involving dozens of companies, hundreds of workers and countless incremental advances.

And today, their long-shot idea is a real, physical place. Thursday morning at 9:37 a.m., seven years from the moment American Airlines Flight 77 slammed into the Pentagon at 550 mph, Kaseman and Beckman's two-acre, park-like memorial will be dedicated at the site of the impact.

The ceremony is expected to draw 20,000 invited guests, including Secretary of Defense Robert M. Gates, who is the keynote speaker, members of Congress, military personnel, survivors of the attack and family members of the victims. And when the memorial opens to the general public Thursday afternoon and visitors begin to stream in, they will find a place unlike any other in the Washington region.

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JMU is showing Stanford student's 9/11 documentary of hate violence during aftermath

Staff Reports

Today marks the seventh anniversary of the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. On that tragic day 19 hijackers killed 2,998 people and injured 6,291 more in New York, Washington D.C. and Pennsylvania. To commemorate the anniversary the International Student Association is screening "Divided We Fall: Americans in the Aftermath" tonight at Grafton-Stovall Theatre at 6 p.m.

The documentary follows 20-year-old Stanford University student Valarie Kaur. She documented hate violence against the Sikhs and Muslims in the aftermath of 9/11. She questions "who counts" as an American in today's world and the movie reflects how America reacted in the days after the attacks.

The now 25-year-old said the documentary took her two years to make and it was completed in 2006. The film has won numerous awards for its coverage. More than 150 campuses and communities across the United States have shown the film. The movie will be screened in 50 cities this month as a part of a campaign for dialogue about racism, religion and renewal in America.

The University Program Board sponsors the International Student Association, a student-led multi-cultural organization. Admission is free.



photos courtesy of ERINN JEFFERSON

TOP: The Friends of Rachel steering committee, from left: David Herr, Liz Ross, Nora Trachtman, Erin Jefferson, Craig Scott, Sarah Ward, Emily Pulleyn, Kristina Zaccaria and Ryan Middleton pose after Scott's presentation last Thursday night. JMU is the first university in the country to have a Friends of Rachel club. BELOW: Jefferson and Zaccaria sign Rachel's Challenge.

Columbine Survivor Calls For Acts of Kindness

By ASHTON SMITH
The Breeze

Craig Scott's story of his quest to tell the nation about his sister Rachel's story inspired many who came to see him last Thursday night.

Scott is a Columbine survivor, but his sister wasn't as lucky. She was the first victim in the school shooting more than nine years ago.

Dylan Klebold and Eric Harris took the lives of 13 people, students and a teacher.

Two of those 13 were his best friends.

Now Friends of Rachel, the group the Scotts have started in Rachel's memory to stop school violence, has reached higher education. JMU is the first university in the country to have the group.

Thousands of high schools have already begun Rachel's Challenge, but now JMU gets to start the group on the college level.

Here is part two of Scott's story, and points two and three of his five-point plan to stop violence in high schools and colleges around the nation.

Keep a Journal, Write Your Goals

Scott asked the crowd of 3,000 last week, "How many of you have a diary?"

Many raised their hands, but Scott didn't see many males answering that question.

"Guys, we don't keep diaries, that's just wrong," Scott said. "We keep journals."

The audience laughed and so Scott began to talk about how he felt it was important to write in a journal every day.

Scott said that the reason we know so much about our history is from journals. He said if we were to teach our kids and grandkids about our history we needed to write down what was going on so it was accurate.

Scott said since the shooting he has written in his journal every day and said his sister was the reason he started.

Rachel's journal was key in seeing what she was going through up until she was killed. Her family has all of the pages and it gave them insight to how Rachel felt about her life and what she wanted to do

with the time she had left.

Her book bag was kept as evidence after the shootings. But it was returned to the Scotts and they saw that one of her last entries was, "I won't be labeled as average." A bullet hole was right underneath that line where it had passed through Rachel and went into her book bag.

In one of her journal entries, when she was 16 years old, she wrote, "This will be my last year, Lord. Thank you."

She died at 17.

In the weeks leading up to her death, Rachel wrote a number of new poems.

"They were all poems about dying," Scott said.

But Scott said that even though his sister knew her time was up, the journals are what they used to learn more about Rachel.

"The journals allowed her to grow," Scott said.

Rachel also wrote about wanting to make an impact on the world. She knew her time was limited and she wanted to touch other people any way she could.

Now many have heard of Friends of Rachel and know who she is.

Her family has made sure of that. Craig, his father Darrell, and his other sister Dana have traveled the country telling the world about Rachel and what she did for those around her. Darrell came to JMU last year to tell his story and his son soon followed after the official JMU chapter was created.

Her journal also connected the Scotts with others in the nation. They received a phone call just a couple of days after the shootings from a man in Minnesota. His name was Frank and he called because he had a vision of eyes crying and he thought of Rachel after he had seen her picture on television.

Days later, when the police gave the Scotts her belongings back, they flipped through her journal and the last entry shocked them.

"This is what Rachel had drawn," Scott said.

It was eyes crying down on a rose.

"There were 13 teardrops from the eyes to the flower, and 13 people were killed that day," Scott said.

See Columbine, page 18

MADISON
METEOROLOGY

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SA: Pilchen Should Not Have Had Access to SA Accounts

SA, from front

Tuesday's SGA meeting. "It shows you that [scan dal] is not an isolated occurrence, these things [scandal] is not an isolated occurrence, these things happen all the time. Now it's up to [the SA] to move on and distance themselves from what has happened."

Pilchen made purchases from the off-campus SA bank account totaling \$138.51 for such things as movie tickets, food and cigarettes, according to *The Flat Hat*, William and Mary's student newspaper. This unauthorized use of SA funds came to light when bank account statements for the months of April and May went missing. When he was confronted about it, Pilchen admitted to what he had done.

Pilchen shouldn't have had access to the account, having finished his term as president in March. But over a 15-day span from April 28 to May 12, Pilchen made 17 purchases using the fund meant for special projects and events, according to *The Flat Hat*.

"I literally just didn't think it was going to be that big a deal," Pilchen said in a Sept. 2 article in *The Flat Hat*. "I would not have tried to do this maliciously."

Pilchen and Hopkins could not be reached for comment on this article.

Current JMU SGA President Larson Thune expressed his disapproval of Pilchen's actions following Tuesday's meeting.

"I think it's terribly dishonest," he said. "I think it's a shame that the students were deceived by their president."

According to Thune and Candace Avalos, vice president of student affairs, JMU SGA has better internal controls to keep something similar from happening here.

While the SGA does have access to an outside bank account, no single member has access to the card at any time.

"If we wanted to go to Wal-Mart, for example, to buy supplies, we'd have to go through Paula Lam, the financial adviser, to use the card and we have to return it within 24 hours," Avalos said.

In addition, a receipt of any transaction must be given along with the card.

"We can't even be off by a couple of cents," Avalos said. "It's something we take very seriously and has never been an issue for us."



LARSON THUNE

“
I think it's a shame that the students were deceived by their president.
— LARSON THUNE
SGA President

”



CANDACE AVALOS

“
We can't even be off by a couple of cents.
— CANDACE AVALOS
VP of Student Affairs

”



NOTES: SGA Passes Resolution to Sponsor Debate

Notes, from front

House rules suspended and skipped the two-week waiting period because organizations have already approached the committee for money.

"We don't want to suspend House rules on a whim," said Tommy Bluestein, speaker pro tempore. "We don't want it to be a joke."

The Senate did pass a resolution Tuesday night that will allow an SGA co-sponsored debate about the presidential election between the College Republicans, College Democrats and Madison Liberty (the university's libertarian organization) on Oct. 15 at 7 p.m. in Memorial Hall. The Orange Band Initiative will also sponsor this event.

The Orange Band Initiative is an issue awareness program started by Kai Degner, a candidate for Harrisonburg City Council.

MEDIA: Guest Speaker Addresses Unfair News Coverage of Females in Political Spotlight

Media, from front

From news coverage focused on images of Hilary Clinton's cleavage rumors of Obama's supposed terrorist ties, Pozner tried to cover more than two years worth of media in an hour and a half.

"If you want to know why women are still so underrepresented in office, it could be attributed to media maintaining the power differential by scaring off women from running in elections in the first place," Pozner said, "but also by basically treating women who run for office as ladies first and leaders as only a distant second."

Pozner said it gives the wrong impression to viewers.

"This helps to convince the American public that women are not true leaders; they're girls," she said. "That's the big message that we saw with the coverage of Hilary. And it's starting to be the message we're seeing with Palin too."

Though the information and topic was valu-

able for communication studies professor Aaron Noland, he found faults with Pozner's views.

"I thought this was a pretty unsophisticated analysis," Noland said. "The representation of clips shown does not give balance to these shows and how there's usually someone who has the other opinion in interviews. It would have been nice to show the full circle."

Instead of covering the candidates' platform issues, Pozner showed how broadcast journalists focused many main stories on Clinton's makeup, cleavage and voice. They have started similar features on Palin's Down syndrome baby, pregnant daughter and the candidate's own eating and workout habits.

"Have any of you ever read a story or seen something on the news about John McCain's jock strap?" Pozner asked the audience. "No? What about Rudy Guiliani's package? No, but this is what passes as coverage when the candidate is female."

With inaccurate coverage for more than a year and a half, Pozner said many people don't know

what to believe anymore. The power of political attack ads only adds to this problem.

"Media companies don't want campaign finance reform because they actually get rich from it," Pozner said.

Now, media have suggested that former female Clinton supporters will automatically transfer their votes to the Palin and McCain ticket even though their policy issues are diametrically opposite.

She continued by saying coverage of Obama was permeated with racism through coded, subtle language. Reporters changed their angles throughout the campaign, suggesting first that Obama transcended race, then that he was not black enough, and later identifying him as an elitist then a terrorist.

But junior Ashley Iaconetti noticed biases in Pozner's analysis of the political coverage.

"I felt the presentation was biased because she focused so much on the bias against the Democratic candidates, and didn't talk about Republicans until the very last minute," said the junior media arts and

design major.

Pozner said that there has been limited coverage on McCain since he belongs to the incumbent party, a traditional safeguard.

"He has been assumed to not have gender and not have race," Pozner said. "He's been assumed to be gender and race neutral."

UPB will hold other programs for JMU focused on the election, according to Rachele McCracken, director of the UPB arts and culture committee.

"Hopefully this program will give the audience a better idea on how to watch the news and avoid being influenced in the wrong way in this election," said McCracken, a junior interdisciplinary liberal studies major said.

After hearing a critique on the current state of media, Iaconetti hopes to be more aware in her future career.

"She really pointed out and brought awareness to how everything is so fluffy now and the media isn't covering real substance," she said.



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Exclusively on 

GOP: Field Manager Warns Students of Obama ‘Hype’

GOP, from front
“get out and vote program” that works best to reach voters, according to Kevin Bolling, chairman of the organization.
“That’s really what’s put the Republicans over the top since 2000,” Bolling said.
There are 10 students doing internships in the office, which entails 10 hours of work a week, doing a variety of tasks to volunteer, but mostly logistical work according to Bolling.
Catherine Cannon, a JMU freshman who has been interning for the office said it is a “once in a lifetime opportunity.”
“I figured it’s one of the few presidential candidates that would be running while I’m in school,” Cannon said, adding that she’s always been fascinated by politics.
Ganoe thinks that many students are caught up in the “hype” of Obama’s campaign, and he feels as though JMU’s College Republicans are promoting a more substantial message with McCain.
“I respect greatly and appreciate the enthusiasm that a lot of college students show,” Ganoe said. “I think some of it’s a little misguided, but the College Republicans show that not everyone is misguided.”
McCain and Palin held a rally Wednesday in Fairfax and McCain’s Harrisonburg office held an event Tuesday night to receive tickets. Those interested could pick up tickets, by filling out a form with his or her information. Many of the College Republicans signed up to volunteer and about 10 actually attended the rally. At the office the night before the rally, students, along with other volunteers, made calls to different voters in the area to hear what issues they are concerned about, according to Cannon.
Obama and vice presidential running mate Joe Biden, were also speaking in the Commonwealth Wednesday. The Democrat’s ticket spoke in Norfolk.

McCain: Republican Honored to be a Maverick

McCain, from front
The rally continued with former Sen. Fred Thompson who accused Democratic Presidential Nominee Barack Obama of thinking that “running for president is a qualification to be president.”
When McCain and Palin arrived on stage with their spouses, the response from the crowd was overwhelming.
“I am honored to be considered on this team of mavericks,” said Palin whose speech heavily accentuated her success and experience as governor of Alaska and mayor of Wasilla, Alaska.
She stressed her fiscal leadership by highlighting her state’s budget surplus: “We gave that money back to hard working Alaskans and in these tough times, I’m ready to join John McCain in Washington and we’re going to do the same thing: tax relief for all Americans.”
“I championed earmark reform also,” said Palin, referring to the practice of directing specific amounts of money to specific projects within Federal agencies. “While our opponent [Obama] was requesting a billion dollars in earmarks as a senatorial privilege, what I was doing was vetoing half a billion as an executive responsibility.”
Palin also underscored the need for innovative energy options. “We are going to make this nation energy independent,” she said. “We need American resources brought to you by American ingenuity and produced by American workers.”
As Palin introduced McCain, who had been standing by her side dur-

ing her speech, the crowd erupted in applause and cheers.
“Thank you all of Northern Virginia,” responded McCain. “My friends, the Commonwealth of Virginia is a battleground state, we must win it and we will win it with your support.”
Agreeing with Obama’s theme of change, McCain said, “Let me offer an advance warning to the old, big spending, do nothing —me first, country second, Washington crowd: change is coming, change is coming and it’s coming to our nation’s capital.”
“That’s what this campaign is all about: change and reform.”
McCain hit Obama hard on his lack of experience with national security and ended his speech by saying, “I want to be President of the United States because I know I can inspire a generation of Americans to serve a cause greater than their self interest and themselves. I’ve always put my country first and my friends you can count on that.”
The speech was emotional for some.
“I really enjoyed it I found it really inspiring; I found myself crying,” said Mason alumna Kristell Forensca. “I think [Palin] is incredible, as soon as she walked out on stage I started tearing. Its so inspiring because she is a woman; having her as a candidate is just an amazing accomplishment.”
Not everyone was as inspired as Forensca however. According to George Mason University Police, approximately 100 protestors were present. Heated exchanges occurred between supporters of the rival candidates before, during and after the rally.

OBAMA: Democratic Candidate Stresses Education

Obama, from front
“He just doesn’t get it”
After Obama completed his response to McCain’s campaign, he proceeded to discuss his education policy. Obama emphasized the importance of education reform and innovation in order to compete in the 21st century.
“Our success as a nation depends upon our success in education,” said Obama.
He went on to describe his record on education mentioning legislation recently passed into law that increased teacher pay.
Obama answered questions from the audience. A student asked about special education needs and Obama stressed the importance

of fully funding special education.
“The government promised to fund 40 percent of special education programs,” Obama said. “The government has never surpassed 18 percent of financial support.”
Obama emphasized the funding of afterschool programs, charter schools and completely overhauling No Child Left Behind.
“We shouldn’t train our kids to just be good test takers,” said Obama. “We need to do more than have them fill out some bubbles on a form.”
The crowd rose to its feet upon this declaration.
The event was closed to the public with only school officials, professors and select students in attendance.

9/11: Memorial Designers Sought to Create a Place of Solace

9/11, from page 3
As intended the central feature is not a single object but the repetition of one: 184 cantilevered, stainless-steel memorials, one for each of the victims, rising up from the ground as if taking flight. Kaseman and Beckman call the 14-foot, 1,100-pound objects “light benches.”
Each bench is mirrored in a pool of trickling water that runs its length and contains an underwater light to shine on its steel underside at night, setting the entire site aglow. Visitors will walk among rows of memorials on a bed of fine gravel, hearing each footstep, as they wander among paper bark maple trees that will grow to form a light-filtering canopy.
Kaseman and Beckman wanted to create a place where families could be comfortable, where they could sit for hours and find solace.
“That is how it started,” Beckman said. “A place to sit. Some shade. Some water. It grew from there. If this place is like no other, we needed a form that wasn’t something you’d see in your daily routine.”
The couple met on the first day of graduate school at Columbia University.
Beckman grew up in the New Jersey suburbs

and was inspired to pursue a design career in high school after reading Ayn Rand’s “The Fountainhead,” about an innovative and persevering young architect who defies convention.
Kaseman, the son of an Air Force officer, grew up mostly in North Dakota and speaks in the easy-going style of a hip professor, interjecting “dude” or “man” even when discussing the “layers of specificity” of a project or its “interrogative” qualities.
But the couple’s decision to enter the memorial design competition was no academic exercise. Beckman watched from the sidewalk at Union Square on Sept. 11, 2001, as the second plane exploded into the South Tower of the World Trade Center. She met Kaseman at his office in Midtown shortly after, and by the time they made it home along Amsterdam Avenue, the streets were so empty they could walk right down the middle. That night, they watched TV and wept.
Like other New Yorkers and Washington area residents, the “dizzy, blurry” day was never far from their minds after that. It was there in the newspaper headlines, on the missing person posters plastered around the city, and in the haunting sound of ambulance and police sirens. The city was



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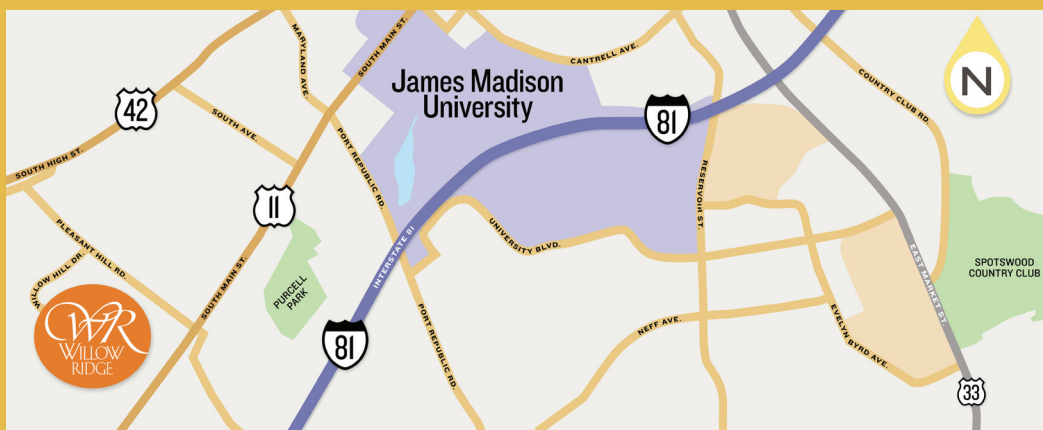
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Sudoku

☆☆☆☆☆

6							2	
		2					6	1
	1	3		9				
				4	8			
		4	3		9	5		
			7	1				
				7		3	4	
1	7					8		
	4							5

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Sudoku

☆☆☆☆☆

	4	1						
	6		2				3	
	5	7				4		2
						9	1	5
8	3	2						
7		3				2	6	
	8				4		5	
						3	9	

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DARTS & PATS

Darts & Pats are anonymous and printed on a space-available basis. Submissions creatively depict a given situation, person or event and do not necessarily reflect the truth. **Submit Darts & Pats at thebreeze.org.**

An “**and-you-wonder-why-JMU-gets-a-bad-rap**” dart to whoever stole my new JMU flag — which I put out to support the Dukes — Sunday night.
From a Harrisonburg resident who is rethinking why she got season football tickets, why she supports the university through donations and why she works for a university where students have no respect for others’ property.

A “**thanks-for-being-there-for-me**” pat to my friend, who gave me a tour and showed me all the good sides of campus after a lonely, miserable first few weeks.
From a freshman who still hasn’t found his place at JMU but is working harder to find it.

A “**sisterhood-means-always-loving-others...except-when-they-are-in-other-sororities**” dart to the greek girls of JMU.
From a guy who is tired of hearing you trash-talk each other before Rush Week.

A “**your-enthusiasm-is-what-this-school-is-all-about**” pat to all the JMU students who cheer, chant and honk whenever a tour group passes by.
From a tour guide who loves to see the look of amazement on prospective students’ and parents’ faces when they realize that JMU really is something else.

An “**isn’t-this-school-worried-about-its-drinking-reputation?**” dart to *The Breeze*.
From a drunkard senior who thinks that the frequent articles about bars will only encourage the student body... and make crowded bars worse.

A “**you-must-have-forgotten-the-girl-to-guy-ratio**” pat to the guy at ISAT who held the door open for girls for at least five minutes. Thanks again!
From a girl who appreciates a gentleman.

A “**way-to-get-even-creepier**” dart to Facebook.
From a senior who is nervously awaiting the day when you will place a GPS locator in my body so everyone I have ever met will know exactly what I am doing.

A “**gee-how-original**” dart to all of the organizations on campus wearing T-shirts that rip off just about every major corporation in the book.
From a graphic designer that thinks you should read up on copyright infringement before you print your next publicity campaign.

A “**thanks-for-doing-your-thankless-jobs**” pat to the Harrisonburg Police Department.
From one student who is an adult, and is not part of the masses who whine about getting busted for something they know is illegal.

An “**I-wasn’t-aware-COB-300-was-the-Third-Reich**” dart to my professors.
From a junior who doesn’t like the Nazi-like policies outlined in the syllabus.

A “**way-to-show-some-love-for-your-fellow-Dukes**” pat to all the awesome SafeRides members who work hard to keep JMU students safe on the weekends.
From an appreciative senior who sincerely looks forward to the ride home at the end of the night.

A “**you’re-welcome**” dart to all the townies — who invade students’ off-campus parties — for the free beer from trusting students.
From a junior who doesn’t appreciate you making increased police presence necessary.

The Breeze

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GREEN, PURPLE & GOLD

GOING GREEN

The first installment Green, Purple & Gold, The Breeze’s newest column covering environmental issues

I spent my summer working the ochre soil near the coast of Southern Spain.
I was on a small organic vegetable and cactus farm, which was part of a larger eco-community. We grew most of our own food. What we didn’t, we bought from other local farms.



ANNE DREYFUSS

Most of the people on the farm, and our neighbors, had dropped out of mainstream society years ago. Their backgrounds varied from high-powered accountants to acid-house go-go dancers. But in my short time there, it seemed that everyone was living in harmony based on mutual respect and support. Most agreed that the rest of the world should do the same.
The life I lived in Spain was very different from my suburban life. There were no sorority girls sporting variations of the exact same T-shirts, no supermarkets with carbon-copy produce.
The people I lived with in Spain embraced their individuality. And the vegetables in our

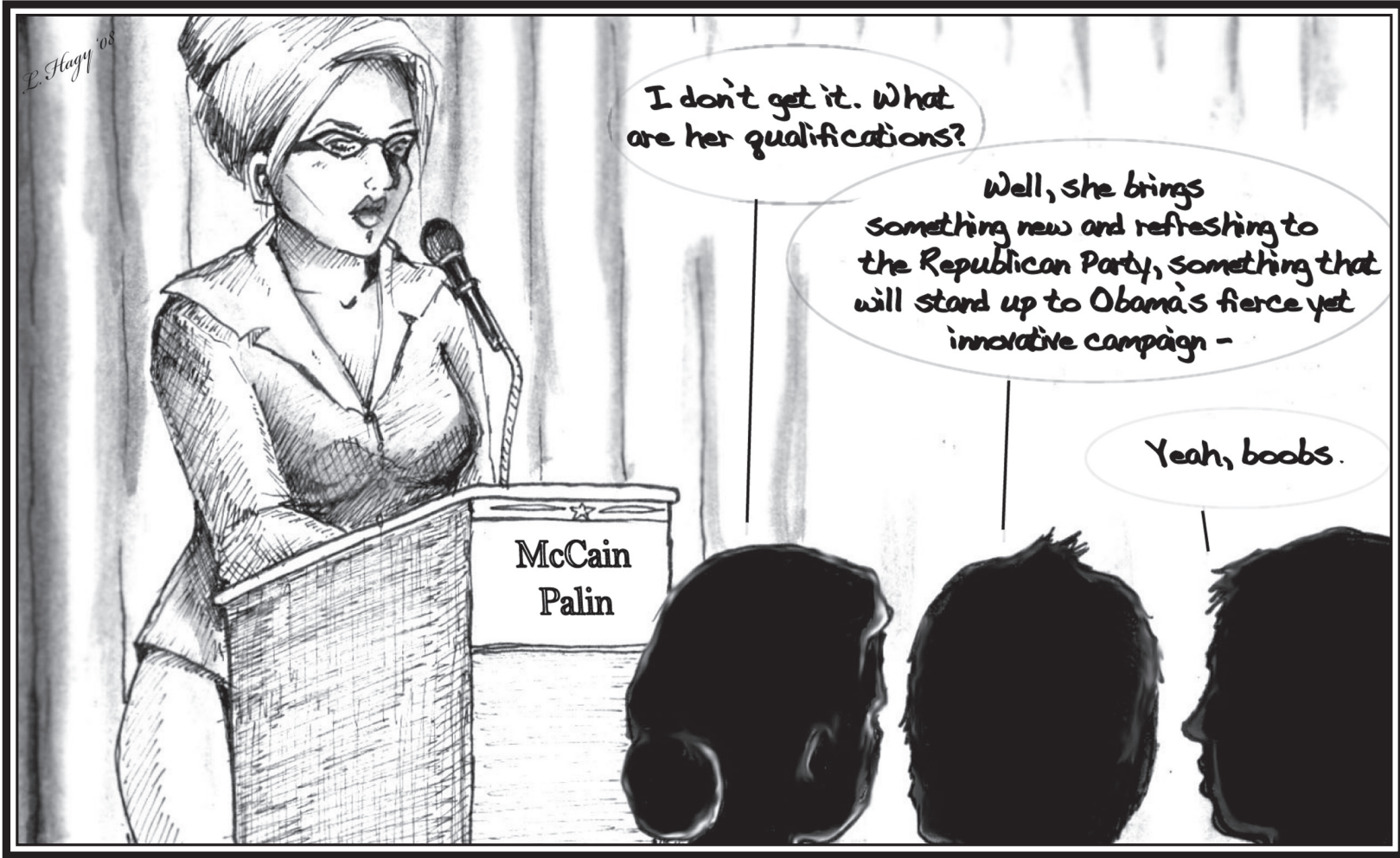
garden mirrored the people — or maybe the people mirrored the food. The broccoli boasted bright yellow blossoms. The strawberries made up for their tiny size in vibrant bursts of red.
But throughout my stay in utopia, I had a tormenting concern — how would I uphold these ideals when I went back to JMU?
When I thought of the Friendly City, I saw Wal-Mart and Big Macs; preservatives, insecticides and gasoline. I mourned the fact that when I left the farm, I would leave a way of life that I felt could not be reproduced in our now-suburban Shenandoah Valley.
I remember sharing my fears with my farmer friend Ras.
Ras told me I had a choice: “You can take the blue pill or the red pill.” Ras was referring to the 1999 film, “The Matrix.” The way he saw it, I had two options. I could go back to where I came from, or follow the path I was on in Spain.
For Ras, the choice was clear. For me, it was not so simple. America is my home and in my heart, and I knew I had to go home. So I chose neither blue nor red. I decided to make my own purple pill, mixing red and blue — even if I had to figure out for myself how to do it.
A few weeks back in the Valley have shown

me it’s possible. You don’t have to disconnect from society to live an environmentally friendly life. Basic steps like composting and starting a small garden contribute to the greater good. I can do my part by writing about it, listening to JMU students and faculty and making this column a conversation about our lives.
This column will cover everything environmental, from mice to mountaintop removal.
At JMU, our ideas about the environment grow in a region that is sometimes green and sometimes sooty. We shop at Wal-Mart and farmer’s markets. We drive and we bike. We have to make all these contradictions work because it’s the nature of our lives.
Including mine. I promise that in my column I’ll try to put a more personal spin on topics we see ad nauseum.
I want to write about how the climate crisis affects us as JMU students. I’ll write about what I think needs to be changed and how, as college students, we can be that change.

■ ANNE DREYFUSS is a junior media arts & design major. Green, Purple & Gold is a new column devoted to environmental/green issues from a college student’s perspective.

EDITORIAL CARTOON

LAUREN HAGY



GUEST COLUMN

MICHAEL LARRICK, contributing writer

Hit Me, Baby, One More Time

Britney Spears’ latest comeback is something to behold

To all those Britney Spears haters out there, I’d like to take this opportunity to rub it in your face: I told you so! I always knew this day would come. People were always telling me, “You’re crazy! She’ll never be able to do it!” Well guess what, b*****s? She’s back and with flying colors!
If you didn’t catch the MTV Video Music Awards on Sunday, allow me to fill you in. Britney Spears ran that place. Take a gander at her opening monologue:
“Thank you so much. Thank you for all the love. I’m here tonight to celebrate a very important birthday, the 25th anniversary of the VMAs. This is the 2008 MTV Video Music Awards, and it starts right now.”
Wow. That is almost too good. It took everything in me to fight the tears.
After that, she nabbed three Moonmen for Video of the Year, Best Pop Video and Best Female Video — all for the song “Piece of Me.” The song has officially earned a

spot on my “workout” mix and may make an appearance on my “getting-ready-to-go-out” mix. It’s that good.
It was really rough for me during Britney’s darker days. I was barely sleeping, and most food seemed unappetizing. I could barely choke down applesauce. My dreams were
“
It was really rough for me during Britney’s darker days. I was barely sleeping, and most food seemed unappetizing.
”
filled with her better days, and I would awake disappointed they had to end. Now there’s finally a sunny day for Britney fans after a long season of rain. This is the first time I’ve smiled in months and it feels great!
To be honest, I was devastated after her 2007 VMA performance. Talk of her return had me on a high for weeks but it still left me fright-

ened. What would I do? Could I handle another Britney shortcoming? I barely survived her first fall from grace in 2006. Was I strong enough?
Unfortunately, my worst fears were realized. Her performance of “Gimme More” at the 2007
VMAs was uninspired and it actually looked like she’d eaten food regularly. We can’t have that. I was debating getting my Britney tattoo removed and, if you know me, that’s the equivalent of putting my child up for adoption.
But Britney’s got her head in the game now. She’s focused. So yeah, maybe she’s had some hard times.

Who cares if she went into a public bathroom with no shoes on? Do you know how hard it is to remember to wear shoes? I barely remember to put my pants on half the time. That’s something we can’t ask of her; it’s just not fair.
OK, she did shave her head and took an umbrella to a paparazzo’s car. Blah, blah, blah... She just gave in to the temptation that we all feel every second of the day. We should be applauding her for being so free. Wouldn’t we all just like to do what we want, when we want?
I’m proud of you, Britney. You haven’t married anyone in months! That takes some willpower! And you look great! Getting to a gym is hard work, you have to lift things and you sweat and eww.
Hopefully, this is a sign of things to come, and I’ll finally be able to sleep at night knowing Britney is back.

■ MICHAEL LARRICK is a junior media arts & design major and comedian.

The Breeze welcomes and encourages readers to voice their opinions through letters and guest columns. Letters must be no longer than 250 words, and guest columns must be no more than 500 words to be considered for publication. The Breeze reserves the right to edit submissions for length, grammar and if material is libelous, factually inaccurate or unclear. The Breeze assumes the rights to any published work. Opinions expressed in this page, with the exception of editorials, are not necessarily those of The Breeze or its staff.

Letters and guest columns should be submitted in print or via e-mail and must include name, phone number, major/year if author is a current student (or year of graduation), professional title (if applicable), and place of residence if author is not a JMU student.
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EDITORIAL POLICIES

OFF THE WIRE

Supreme Court Could Revisit Landmark Child Rapist Case

The Los Angeles Times

An embarrassed U.S. Supreme Court indicated this week that, because of a statistical error in the majority opinion, it may re-examine its controversial holding of only three months ago that the death penalty for child rapists is unconstitutional. Fortunately, the justices can come to the same correct conclusion using a more straightforward rationale: that executing anyone for a crime other than homicide shocks the conscience.

It has been 51 years since the court last agreed to rehear a major constitutional case, and it may yet decline to do so in this situation. But the court has asked lawyers for new briefs from both parties — and from the Bush administration — in the case of a Louisiana man sentenced to death for raping his 8-year-old stepdaughter. The case has spilled from the judicial system into the presidential campaign, with both Barack Obama and John McCain denouncing the decision.

The reason the court is considering revisiting its 5-4 decision is that Justice Anthony M. Kennedy's opinion for the majority understated the number of jurisdictions that imposed the death penalty for child rape, arguing that only six states did so and implying that the federal government was among the jurisdictions that had refused to join them. In fact, Congress had authorized the execution of child rapists as part

of the military justice system.

Kennedy's error is significant because he argued that the handful of jurisdictions that authorized the death penalty for child rape proved that the punishment departed from the "evolving standards of decency" the court has used in some cases to decide whether a penalty is "cruel and unusual" and thus a violation of the Eighth Amendment. Citing the mistake, Louisiana and the Bush administration asked for a rehearing.

As we argued after the decision, the opinion should have limited itself to a finding by the court itself that executing someone for a crime other than murder — even a heinous crime such as the rape of a child — was unconstitutional. Kennedy did make that point, but also insisted on straying into statistical analysis. That was a mistake, partly because — as Justice Samuel A. Alito Jr. observed — many states probably had refrained from passing laws like Louisiana's because of a 1977 high court decision overturning the death sentence of a man who raped a married woman.

In the leading opinion in that case, Justice Byron White wrote: "Rape is without doubt deserving of serious punishment, but in terms of moral depravity and of the injury to the person and to the public, it does not compare with murder, which does involve the unjustified taking of human life." If the court does rehear the Louisiana case, it should embrace White's eloquent argument and not engage in a numbers game.

“...executing anyone for a crime other than homicide shocks the conscience.”

OFF THE WIRE

Candidates Debate in The Dark

The Washington Post

Republican James S. Gilmore III and Democrat Mark R. Warner are two of Virginia's most recognizable personalities. Voters may be less familiar with what each hopes to accomplish if elected this November to the U.S. Senate. Unfortunately, if the current schedule holds, most Virginians won't get to see the two candidates contrast their views side by side before the Nov. 4 election. Warner is dodging a televised debate.

The first and so far only debate between the candidates, held in July, produced the usual partisan rancor but also spotlighted useful distinctions between them. Gilmore said he supports oil drilling along coastlines and in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska; Warner said he was skeptical of offshore drilling but wouldn't rule it out. Gilmore boasted that he cut taxes and balanced the budget as governor; Warner countered that Gilmore's tax cuts contributed to a statewide budget shortfall that exceeded \$6 billion.

The debate, sponsored by the Virginia Bar Association, was attended by a few hundred lawyers and wasn't televised. One other debate is planned, before the Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce on Thursday, Sept. 18. It will be televised, but only in Northern Virginia, and during the middle of the day, when few voters can watch.

Gilmore has seized on Warner's reluctance to debate, seeking to jump-start his campaign with the rallying cry, "What is Mark Warner hiding?" Gilmore may hope that voters have forgotten how he refused to debate his Democratic opponent while running for governor 11 years ago, and that he sidestepped a debate in the senatorial primary this year.

Still, we think voters can hold two truths in their heads simultaneously: Yes, Gilmore is a hypocrite on this subject; and yes, Warner is insulting the democratic process by refusing to engage in primetime debates broadcast statewide.



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Go Vote!

Hey you! As one of America's more than 17 million college students, you can help decide this fall's presidential election — but only if you register to vote.

This fall's election will be the most important one for college students in a generation. The issues will affect you for years: a poor job market, national security and rumors of a new draft, high gas prices, record national debt — the list goes on. As tomorrow's leaders, JMU students can't afford not to vote this fall.

Most JMU students will need to submit an absentee ballot. Thankfully, registering to vote and submitting an absentee ballot are easier than ever. There are two simple steps:

First, if you're 18, just visit longdistancevoter.org/virginia to fill out a voter registration form. (Information for all 50 states is available.) Then, print it out and mail it to your city or county registrar.

Second, fill out and print the absentee ballot from the same site and mail it. Don't wait too long. The deadline to register to vote in Virginia is Oct. 6, and your absentee ballot must be received by the close of the polls on election day, Nov. 4.

Doing nothing is easy. But this election is too important for anyone to be a slacker. VOTE!

*David Perry
class of '94, Roanoke, Va.*

Palin Not Republican Lifesaver

Tony Spadaccia's column ("Palin Might Be Just What McCain Needs," Sept. 8) presented Republican vice presidential nominee Sarah Palin in a completely sugar-coated manner, treating her as if

she were the greatest thing since microwave popcorn. Sure, the Alaskan governor is anti-abortion and a member of the National Rifle Association, but she has fought many of the conservative ideals in the Alaskan legislature and on paper may appear to be one of the most liberal-leaning Republican governors in the country. I guess in order to win Republicans have learned to mask their conservative ideals to get votes.

McCain banked on winning female votes when he selected Palin as his running mate, but I would hope that women voters are smart enough to understand her message before they vote for her based solely on sex. Her family has also been placed in the glaring spotlight of the presidential campaign. Palin has a son on his way to the war in Iraq, a teenage daughter five months pregnant and an infant son with special needs, not to mention her two other children. By accepting the vice presidential candidacy she has already chosen politics over her family — what a sacrifice for political advancement.

And experience may be off the table but keep in mind that the governor of a sparsely populated state and the second-in-command of an entire country are two very different things. True, she is not running for president, but also true: John McCain is 72 years old. Obama may be a first-term senator, but Palin is in the second year of her first term as governor and previously the mayor of a town with fewer than 7,000 people.

Palin may be the first female vice presidential nominee in history and she may be a mother of five, but don't vote for her for those reasons. Do some research — she's not quite the saint everyone assumes she is.

*Emma Callahan
sophomore nursing major*

Two-Year-Olds at JMU

I'm old enough to be the dad of almost all JMU undergraduates.

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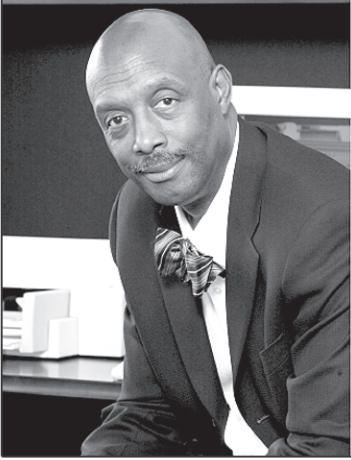
Dr. Warren W. Buck

Chancellor of the University of Washington, Bothell

Chancellor Buck is an internationally known theoretical physicist.

How we perceive the world we live in plays a pivotal role in our quality of life and our sense of well being. Forms of art, and also of science, have historically opened new perspectives for our quality of life as well as evoking well being living on the earth. While from a physics perspective, space not being empty, solids not being as solid as they seem, and things not living forever may be puzzling, they do give us hints as to where we live.

Through a combination of visual art and physics, I express my experiences of being on our little planet and being inter-connected with others.



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Two of my sons graduated from JMU. As a dad, I've been there from the very beginning. Children go through various phases as they mature (we hope). One of the most challenging times is when they turn two. My wife and I swore we'd never teach the boys the word "no," but somehow they learned it. They would refuse to do what we said and throw "temper tantrums" at the most embarrassing times and places. Sometimes at the store they would want something shiny to take home. When we said "no," they went nuts, screaming and falling on the floor. We'd pick them up and haul them out to the car (kicking and screaming) and go home. Frequently, we were embarrassed by their behavior. At home they would yell when we put them into their crib. We finally figured out that the best way to deal with their behavior was to ignore them. Of course, when ignored, they went nuts to get our attention. If we persisted to ignore them, the behavior stopped because they didn't get attention.

Every fall and spring, two-year-olds (emotional, that is) show up at JMU and begin acting in outrageous ways on the commons. (You know to whom I am referring.) They call you guys all sorts of names and try to get you to interact with them. They are having a blast because they are getting attention, but you feel extremely frustrated at their behavior. I do also.

Here's a suggestion from a dad. The next time one of them shows up remember that they are emotional two-year-olds. The best way to deal with them is to ignore them. They want attention, and if we don't give them attention, they will eventually go away. They will throw emotional "temper tantrums" when ignored, but if we consistently turn away, they will go away.

So, when one of these emotional two-year olds shows up on campus, just walk away and tell your friends to do the same.

*Frank Doherty, Ph.D.
JMU director of institutional research*

Campus Gun Control Policies Fail to Protect Students, Aid Shooters

The following is a response to the recent editorial ("Glock Blocking," Sept. 8) concerning the concealed carrying of handguns on college campuses:

Shootings like the one at Virginia Tech are committed by people who have no regard for human life, let alone regard for the law. College campuses are supposed to be gun-free zones but that didn't stop the individuals at Columbine, Jonesboro or Virginia Tech from killing their classmates. Continuing to keep guns off campus will only serve to disarm those who do have regard for the law and will only continue to provide a target-rich environment for disturbed individuals like Seung-Hui Cho.

Thirty-nine states are shall-issue states which must deliver a permit to carry a weapon to a properly qualified applicant. The individuals who receive these permits are overwhelmingly dedicated to upholding the law and protecting themselves and others from those who would hurt them.

Permit-holders have a fantastic safety record and pose no danger to students, staff or faculty. Preventing permit-holders from carrying on campus does not make the students, staff or faculty any safer nor does it stop an individual from going on a shooting spree. A handgun in the hands of a permit-holder is a gun in the right hands. We have seen that gun-free zones have not protected students and now we need to allow guns in the right hands onto campus.

*Matthew Johnson
Sumter, South Carolina*

Going Vegetarian is a Greener Option

JMU's dining halls should be commended for seeking ways to become more environmentally friendly ("D-Hall Helping Save Water," Aug. 28), but there is one simple thing that all of JMU — staff and students alike — can do to help the Earth: Go vegetarian.

According to a 2006 United Nations report, the meat industry produces more greenhouse gases than all the SUVs, cars, trucks, planes and ships in the world combined. Going vegetarian will also reduce water pollution, deforestation, and other planetary problems — not to mention help billions of animals and improve your own health.

Adopting a vegetarian diet is easier than implementing a curb-side recycling program and more effective than switching to alternative fuels — plus, as a bonus, it's much tastier. For a free vegetarian starter kit, visit GoVeg.com.

*Starza Kolman
class of '03*

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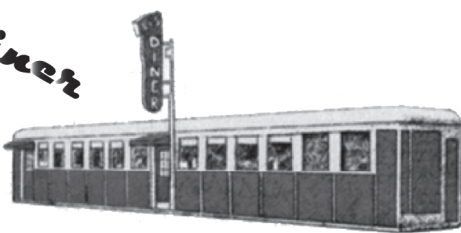
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A Thirst For Competition

Pong>> Tournament Concludes



Four seniors bring World Cup to the 'Burg in three-day beer pong tournament

By **BRITTANY HALE**
contributing writer

The FIFA World Cup is an international soccer competition that traditionally occurs every four years, but in Harrisonburg another "World Cup" happens twice a year. The competition hosted by four seniors does not, however, involve playing soccer. The main components of this tournament are two balls, 12 Solo Cups and a "thirst" for competition.

The World Cup of Beer Pong was started in the fall of 2006 and has been a main social event for many JMU students every fall and spring semester for the past two years. This past weekend was the fifth World Cup hosted by beer pong masterminds Matt Schweet, Griffin Spencer, Sam Devlin and Kyle Kinnally.

According to Spencer, Schweet was the first person to come up with the idea of hosting a beer pong tournament.

"We were sitting in the pool at Sam's house in [Ashburn, Va.] one night over the summer and Schweet came in with what he thought was the greatest idea he'd ever had," Spencer said. "We sat and talked about it a bit and it morphed into the World Cup because we all love soccer."

"Clearly, it really was the greatest idea he's ever come up with," Spencer said.

There are a total of eight groups in the tournament with four teams in each group, totaling 32 teams, just like the FIFA World Cup. Overall, 64 individuals play in the tournament.

"Every team in the tournament has to be a country that is an official FIFA-sanctioned soccer team," Spencer said. "Most of the teams are immediate friends who we can guarantee will be there, but all 32 teams aren't the same each year; we're always trying to add new people to mix up the competition."

The four hosts also participate in the tournaments, hoping to someday clinch the highly sought-after championship title in the elaborate beer pong tournament. Both Schweet and Spencer represent team Switzerland; Devlin and senior Alex Hallheimer are team England; and Kinnally represents team Ireland with senior, Anthony Phillips, his marathon training partner.

The tournament has become so popular, even JMU alumni and students from other schools such as Virginia Tech, UVA and GMU make special trips for a chance to become the next champions. Senior Jimmy Smariga from team Colombia, travels down from Oregon State University each semester in order to play, making him the participant from the farthest distance.

"It's the best beer pong tournament I've ever heard of," Smariga said.

Iceland Takes Cup

As this semester's World Cup Beer Pong Tournament came to an end, participants watched the final showdown between team Switzerland, against Virginia Tech seniors Matt Delbridge and Tony Christian, representing team Iceland. In the end, Iceland sealed the win, claiming its spot on the table as the Fall 2008 World Beer Pong Champions.

"We're definitely coming back for the next tournament," Delbridge said. "We've got to defend the title."

For team Switzerland and World Cup hosts, Schweet and Spencer, the loss was bittersweet.

"It's great to be a host and make it this far because none of the other guys in our house have advanced to the final game like Schweet and I did today," Spencer said Sunday. "But getting to the Final and losing was disappointing."

Recent 2008 graduate Jon Chavez, a team Italy member, returned to play in the tournament and was also inducted into the new Hall of Fame.

"Being inducted into the Hall of Fame felt like the crowning achievement of my life and I hope it's not the last," said Chavez, who looks forward to the tournaments each year and will return next time in order to "upkeep my Hall of Fame status."

For other students, the tournament location, Stone Gate apartments, is just a short walk across the street. For neighbor and JMU senior Jessie Scruggs, this tournament was a defining moment for Vatican City's World Cup Beer



photos by **NICKI METCALF**/contributing photographer

Team Switzerland competed in the beer pong finals Sunday. They lost to Iceland.

See **PONG**, page 17



photo courtesy of **TAYLOR ADKINS**

Each season of Prank-A-Tour is themed. Willie Wonka and his Oompa Loompas were part of the D-Hall extravaganza in 2005, along with Donkey Kong and Mario.

Is That A Scuba Diver In The Lake? *Prank-A-Tour creates mischief for prospective students*

By **JESS GODBY**
contributing writer

Every day, prospective students come to JMU to go on a tour and see what the university has to offer. Occasionally, a "GO DUKES!" can be heard from a car of rowdy students, or maybe a few jokes will be tossed at a tour group, but no one had ever seen something so extreme until alumni Ryan Joyce and Taylor Adkins started the JMU Prank-a-Tour.

"I came on a tour on April Fool's Day in 2002," Adkins said. "They pranked our tour group, but very minor pranks. Ryan said, 'Hey, let's take this above and beyond.'"

The idea started becoming real-

ity when Joyce and Adkins became students; they wanted to prank some friends in Student Ambassadors and get students pumped up about coming to the university.

The first "Prank-a-Tour" had a test drive in 2004, following some minor preparation the week before. After they saw how far they could take it, Joyce and Adkins decided to give it a shot and make something unforgettable. They handed out flyers to passing students, and generated interest among 40 people. They started having twice-weekly meetings three months before the tour.

"We'd brainstorm pranks, then we'd do prank development," Adkins said. "We'd map out campus.... we re-

ally looked at it as a production. Everyone put a lot of time into it."

The project became so big that Glenn's Fair Price Store, located downtown, donated costumes and everyone pitched in a little money for some extra props. The result? A scuba diver in Newman Lake, a choreographed performance of "Be Our Guest" in D-Hall and an ultimate fight scene between ninjas, super heroes and a secret agent all fighting for a mysterious briefcase. Adkins's favorite Prank-a-Tour moments were in 2005.

"2005 was the big one," Adkins said. "The main plot was this briefcase that was being exchanged. One of the

See **PRANK**, page 16

out & about town

What's happenin' around the 'Burg

TODAY: Documentary

WHO: Filmmaker Valarie Kaur
WHAT: "Divided We Fall," a documentary exposing the deep effects of 9/11. Students will be able to view the documentary and participate in an open discussion.
WHERE: Grafton-Stovall Theatre
WHEN: 6 p.m.-8 p.m.
PRICE: Free



FRIDAY: Block Party in the 'Burg

WHO: UPB
WHAT: Music, food, T-shirts and tours. There will be performances by JMU a capella groups, the Greg Ward Project and more. After the event, head to Court Square to watch Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure outdoors.
WHERE: Downtown Harrisonburg
WHEN: 4 p.m.-8 p.m.
PRICE: Free



SATURDAY: Comedian

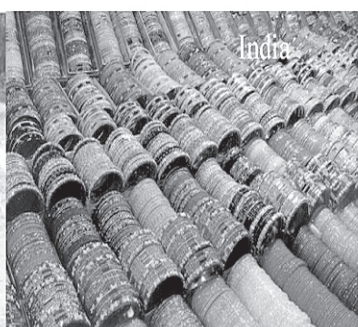
WHO: Craig Robinson from "The Office" and "Knocked Up"
WHAT: Stand-up comedy
WHERE: War Memorial Auditorium, Memorial Hall
WHEN: 8 p.m.
PRICE: \$4 with Jac Card and \$8 at Warren Hall box office; \$8 and \$11 at the door



2008 International Photo Contest



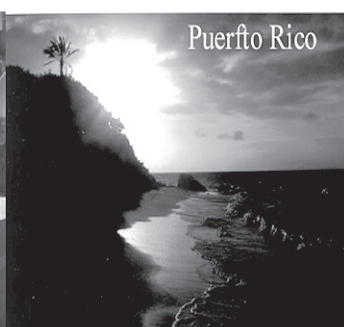
Meghan Bollenback



Kristi Van Sickle



Bethany Kent



John Michael Triana



Jennifer Arthur



Alexander Seabrook



Linh Ngoc Nguyen



Andreas Knab



Shannon Childress



Anna Laura Grant



Dinara Sekenova

Rules

- Photos cannot be larger than 4" X 6"
- Photos must have been taken outside the U.S.
- Contestants must be JMU students, faculty, staff or official affiliates of JMU
- Photos can be black-and-white or color
- No more than three photos may be submitted per contestant
- Photos must be received in the ISSS office, J-MAC 6, Suite 23 no later than September 12, 2008 at 5:00 p.m.
- The back of each photo must contain the contestant's name and the name of the country where the photo was taken

Winners will be announced in four categories: People, Nature, Architecture, and Miscellaneous. There are cash prizes for the winners.

By entering the contest you are giving JMU permission to use/display your photos. Photos will not be returned to contestants.

Any photo not conforming to all contest rules will be declared ineligible.

www.jmu.edu/international/iweek

JMU Invitational Signals Start of XC

By **WES SHAW**
The Breeze

Holding with tradition, women's cross country will open its season Saturday by hosting the JMU Invitational in New Market.

It will be the sixth straight year Madison opens with this meet, having finished third in 2006 and second last year.

The course runs alongside the New Market Battlefield, about twenty minutes north of Harrisonburg. The hilly, rolling course measures slightly over the typical race protocol of 5,000 meters.

"Overall, it's a really good cross country course," junior Holly Fredericksen said. "I think it's a fun meet. It's exciting because it's our first one and it's a neat way to get back into racing."

Saturday's meet is the start of a short, four-race tune-up period for the Dukes before Colonial Athletic

Association Championships on Nov. 1 in Fairfax.

"We just don't need to race as much," JMU coach Dave Rinker said. "If you race too much you don't get a chance to train."

Madison is hoping to challenge perennial distance-running powerhouse William & Mary this season, who has won the last five CAA titles and 13 of the past 18.

JMU took the remaining five over that time, finishing second to the Tribe last year.

"I think we have a really good shot at finishing first" this year, Fredericksen said. "I think William & Mary is going in with the attitude that they will be able to win with no problem, but I really think we're strong enough that we could definitely chal-



Fredericksen

lenge and surprise them."

Cross country is unlike any other sport, in that the struggles or successes throughout the season mean nothing on the day of the conference championship. Every team has a shot to win, with everything resting on that day's performance.

"It just comes down to whoever has the best race on the day of conference championships," Rinker said.

Madison will have to challenge W&M, however, without Dena Spickard, its top runner from last year. In 2006, Spickard was named the CAA Runner of the Year as a junior after winning the conference championship race. She was all-conference after a seventh-place finish at the CAA Championships in her senior season.

"We lose seniors every year," Rinker said. "Dena

See **XC**, page 14



CATHY KUSHNER/Sports Media Relations
Junior Alison Parris is one of the top seven runners on the XC team.

Massive Test of Strength

CN8 debuts new format for "Out of Bounds" show

By **MATTHEW MCGOVERN**
The Breeze

It's not quite ESPN's "College Gameday," but a similar show is making an appearance on James Madison's campus Friday.

Entering its third season, CN8's "Out of Bounds" television program is visiting JMU for a special "On Campus" edition of the round-table discussion show Friday at 7 p.m. at the Festival Conference and Student Center.

A group of four sports writers and special guests yet to be named will join host Gregg Murphy to debate the talking points of JMU's game Saturday against Massachusetts. Students are invited to join in the activities, which will open with a performance by rock band "Honor by August," and also include appearances by the Duke Dog and JMU cheerleaders. These events will begin at 5 p.m. outside Festival.

The panel will broadcast the live

"Out of Bounds" JMU Broadcast

Festival Conference and Student Center
Events begin Friday at 5 p.m.
"Out of Bounds: On Campus" begins at 7 p.m.

one-hour football special inside the Festival after the "Out of Bounds: On Campus" kick-off events conclude.

"We've got some special guests lined up, which we'll keep as a surprise at this point," Murphy said. "Some people that you guys will recognize will be on the program. We're really hoping we have a nice turnout from the student body; that we can get some of the crowd involved as well."

Murphy is also CN8's sideline reporter for the game Saturday, while more than 9 million people receive the channel through the Comcast Network. CN8 focuses on college teams from Maine to Virginia, which covers its broadcast area of 12 states.

graphic by **BROOKE HOLLABAUGH**/
The Breeze

Senior quarterback Rodney Landers will lead the Dukes against Massachusetts, a team JMU hasn't beaten since its 2004 NCAA Division I-AA national championship season. The Dukes last played UMass in 2005, when the Minutemen won 10-7.

First conference game is against 2007 CAA champion UMass

By **MATTHEW MCGOVERN**
The Breeze

James Madison football coach Mickey Matthews had his usual phone conversation with Massachusetts coach Don Brown last week, but it was unusually guarded.

"There's no question about it," Brown said in a phone interview Tuesday. "For that one week of the year, the phone lines go quiet between Harrisonburg and Amherst."

The two friends will face off Saturday for the first time since 2005, in a rivalry that Massachusetts has gotten the better of since Matthews arrived at Madison in 1999.

Matthews is 1-4 against UMass in his career, his only win coming at home during JMU's 2004 Division I-AA National Championship season. With high hopes surrounding them, the Dukes will use this game as their first true barometer of expectations.

While No. 7 JMU utterly dominated North Carolina Central University on Saturday, Matthews said that NCCU's defensive scheme is similar to No. 5 Massachusetts in its aggressiveness, and helps as a reference point.

"UMass players are vastly superior to North

See **FOOTBALL**, page 15



CAROLINE DAVIS/*The Breeze*

Week Three FCS Top 25 Coaches Poll

1. North Dakota State	2-0
2. Appalachian State	1-1
3. Montana	1-0
4. Richmond	1-1
5. Massachusetts	2-0
6. Delaware	0-1
7. James Madison	1-1
8. Northern Iowa	1-1
9. McNeese State	1-1
10. New Hampshire	1-0
11. Wofford	2-0
12. Cal. Poly.	1-1
13. Southern Illinois	1-0
14. Eastern Wa.	0-2
15. Georgia Southern	1-1
16. Western Illinois	1-1
17. South Dakota St.	1-1
18. Elon	1-1
19. Central Arkansas	2-0
20. Eastern Illinois	0-2
21. Villanova	0-1
22. Citadel	1-1
23. Furman	1-1
24. Youngstown State	0-2
25. Delaware State	1-0

Fantasy Football Fix-Up: Week Two Picks

By **TIM O'KEEFE**
contributing writer

Week one of the NFL fantasy season is usually a little wacky, but this year it was simply bizarre. In the first set of games alone, I witnessed Tom Brady suffer a season-ending knee injury, two rookie quarterbacks (Matt Ryan and Joe Flacco) led their teams to victory, and even a peculiar guy wearing a J-E-T-S Chad Pennington jersey while watching the Dolphins vs. Jets game.

What is going on?

Then again, this is the unpredictable NFL. As far as your fantasy teams are concerned, don't panic and trade someone like LaDainian Tomlinson for Michael Turner after just one week. It is a long season and patience pays off.

Anyway, here are my week two picks. Hopefully they will lead you to victory.

Start

Aaron Rodgers (QB, Packers) at Detroit

In one of the more hyped season openers in recent memory, Rodgers silenced critics with his 18-for-22, two touchdown performance against the Vikings, outdoing former tutor Brett Favre in fantasy points.

The Lions, on the other hand, proved last week that they officially can't stop anyone; just ask Michael Turner and Matt Ryan. Detroit surrendered 220 yards to Turner and allowed him to score twice, while allowing the rookie Ryan to throw for 161 yards and run for a score.

Yes, I am a Packers fan, but I know a weak defense when I see one.

Earnest Graham (RB, Buccaneers) vs. Atlanta

Last week Graham averaged 9.1 yards-a-carry in a game where Tampa Bay was playing catch up. This week Jeff Garcia may not play, and head coach John Gruden will pound the rock all day against Atlanta.

Anquan Boldin (WR, Cardinals) vs. Miami

Although Boldin is not happy about his contract, he will be all smiles this week in the desert. Last Sunday Boldin did not have a catch in the first half, but in the second Kurt Warner locked in on Boldin for eight catches for 82 yards.

See **PREVIEW**, page 14



PREVIEW: Without Brady, Life, Fantasy Football Go On In The NFL

Preview, from page 13

Sit

**Matt Hasselbeck (QB, Seahawks)
vs. San Francisco**

There are teams that have injury problems, and then there are the Seattle Seahawks. Wide Receivers Engram, Branch, and Burleson are all out with serious injuries. I may take a flight up to the northwest this week and see if they need slow slot receiver for this week. Look for Hasselbeck to struggle against an underrated 49ers secondary.

**Joseph Addai (RB, Colts)
at Minnesota**

There is no question that Addai is a stud, but

like the Seahwaks, injuries are really hurting the Colts. Payton Manning is not in sync yet after missing the entire preseason. Pro-Bowl-center Jeff Saturday may or may not play this week. To make things worse you're going against the best rush defense in the NFL on the road. You have to start Addai most weeks, but not this one.

**Chad Johnson (WR, Bengals)
vs. Tennessee**

The receiver formerly known as Chad Johnson has legally changed his name to "Ocho Cinco." The NFL will still display "Johnson" on the back of his jersey. After one catch for 22 yards last week, Ocho Cinco might want to start working on his game on the field rather than his Spanish off it. Don't start him this week.

Sleepers

**Damon Huard (QB, Chiefs)
vs. Oakland**

If you watched any of the Broncos putting up 41 points on the Raiders last week, you know what I am talking about. The Raiders have some serious issues. This is déjà vu for Huard, who replaces the injured Coyle this week. Huard has filled in admirably for injured Chief starters in the past, like Trent Green. Look for multiple TD tosses this week.

**Matt Forte (RB, Bears)
at Carolina**

When Forte steamrolled the Colts defense last

week for 141 total yards and a score, it was not a fluke. The Bears can't throw the ball, so they will use this rookie as their workhouse all season. The Panthers won last week in dramatic fashion, but still gave up 24 points. I trust Forte this week, and so should you.

Last week

Start- D. Brees, NO (361 yards, 3 TD, 0 Int), M. Turner, ATL (226 yards, 2 TD), A. Johnson, HOU (112 yds, 0 TD)

Sit- M. Bulger, STL (158 yards, 0 TD, 0 Int), L. Johnson, KC (86 yards, 0 TD), B. Berrian, CHI (38 yards, 0 TD)

Sleepers- K. Warner (197 yards, 1 TD), C. Perry, CIN (42 yards, 0 TD)

XC: Begins Season

XC, from page 13

was our special runner and she did a great job for us, but I think some of our returning runners have stepped it up."

Rinker said he expects

The Dukes returned to Harrisonburg just three days before classes started, as their competitive season starts later than other fall sports.

Madison began fall training Sat. Aug. 25, with a workout that has become customary of first practice, a 30-minute run that gets progressively faster every 10 minutes. The Dukes aim to run the first 10 minutes at seven-minute-mile pace, or about 1:30 for each lap, 10 minutes at 6:40 pace, and the final 10 minutes at 6:20 pace.

"If you fall off pace [Rinker] pulls you off the track," Fredericksen said, "The goal is to try to make it all 30 minutes. For the past two years that has been the workout.

"Its kind of a fun workout, it's almost like a game to see if you can make it the whole time. You can compare yourself to different years and see if you last longer than the previous year. It's a neat way to see where you're at."

Of the 21 girls on the team, Fredericksen estimated that only six or seven completed the whole 30 minutes.

Following the meet this weekend, Rinker will take his top eight runners to the Griak Invitational in Minnesota, in which over 200 teams are expected to compete.

The remainder of the team will compete at Bull Run Park in the George Mason Invitational the following week, the site of this year's CAAs.

No.5 OSU & No.1 USC face off Sat.

By BILL PLASCHKE

Los Angeles Times

The leader of the Ohio State program fell all over his sweater vest spouting admiration for the University of Southern California program Tuesday, Coach Jim Tressel claiming he believed that the Trojans played football "the right way."

We know better.

We know what the Buck-eyes really think.

We know, because a couple of days ago, one of their players told us.

His name is Ray Small. He is a junior receiver in his third season with the program. He leads the team in receptions, and has scored a touchdown on a punt return.

He has a reputation for being a bit of a flake, but he is not some wide-eyed freshman or bitter benchwarmer.

He is an Ohio State veteran who, in a locked-down program where everyone seems to look and sound the same, is probably not speaking only for himself.

In an interview with ESPN.com last weekend, Small said he believed USC lacked class, discipline and integrity.

"I took my visit to USC, I'm like, 'How are they successful? They're not even serious about the game,'" said Small. "Before the game, they're all going crazy. Me and [defensive end] Rob Rose was on the visit and I'm looking like, 'Wow.'"

"And then the coach said, 'You better get out of here. It's 'bout to get hectic.'"

He compared that to his recruiting visit to Ohio State.

"And then I come on the [Columbus] visit and before the game, it's all quiet, everybody getting taped, coaches talking, it's the total opposite," he said.

Then he gave his evaluation.

"Here at Ohio State, they teach you to be a better man," he said. "There, it's just all about football."

A better man, perhaps, unless you are Ohio inmate Maurice Clarett.

Don't get me started.

I'm still furious at the Buck-eyes for ruining the last two National Championship games by failing to show up in either.

And, yeah, at the end of that 2002 National Champion-

ship game against Miami? Bad call. That was not pass interference. Period.

That's another story. And when it comes to Saturday's game in the Los Angeles Coliseum, that's the story.

In varying forms, I've been hearing Small's comments since Tressel and Carroll were both hired eight years ago.

Ohio State plays football, USC entertains with it. Ohio State teaches football, USC taunts with it.

Blah, blah, blah.

This condescending attitude is so prevalent in Ohio that this summer, even former Trojan Carson Palmer, who works in Cincinnati and never criticizes anybody, couldn't help himself.

"I cannot stand the Buck-eyes," he said in an interview on a Los Angeles radio station.

The words of Palmer and Small echo the perceptions of thousands.

This game is about those perceptions.

It's more than a football clash, it's a culture clash.

It's about a Buckeye nation not used to giving respect against a Trojan nation that cannot stand to be disrespected.

"They'll come out here on Saturday and find out who we are," said USC defensive tackle Fili Moala.

Carroll refused to enter the Small scrum, saying, "He's just one kid, what does he know?"

Tressel, in his conference call with USC reporters, also downplayed it Tuesday, saying, "Obviously it wasn't a good thing, but he's a good kid."

But this will not be forgotten. The Trojans won't talk much about it, but they also won't forget it.

Just ask Nebraska defensive back Andre Jones, who ripped USC before the 2006 game, and was promptly challenged on the field by Dwayne Jarrett, who beat him for a touchdown in a 28-10 Trojans win.

Or just ask Cal. receiver DeSean Jackson, who ripped USC or its players in consecutive years, and was manhandled both years, seven catches total.

The Trojans will take this personal. Ohio State will see. Small will see.

What that unnamed Trojans coach told him on his recruiting trip three years ago, it will be true again Saturday.

It's 'bout to get hectic.



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FOOTBALL: Minutemen Visit Harrisonburg This Weekend

Football, from page 13

Carolina Central's, but in terms of philosophies very similar," Matthews said Monday at his weekly press conference.

Massachusetts is especially talented in the secondary, with three of four preseason CAA all-conference spots occupied by Minutemen. Matthews called UMass senior Sean Smalls, a 2008 preseason all-conference team selection, the CAA's best NFL prospect. Smalls was named a CAA first-team cornerback in 2007 with 49 tackles, 12 passes defensed and two interceptions, including one for a touchdown.

"They've got big, physical guys that get in your face," Landers said. "They like to bump you, they like to push and rub you and stuff, so you know our receivers are taking it very serious this week in their preparation.

"I think it's a challenge for the wideouts — I

think it's a chance for them to go out there and show that they can compete."

Madison's passing game had much more success against NCCU after imploding at Duke, with Landers completing 13 of 17 pass attempts in little more than two quarters against the Eagles on Saturday. Senior tailback Eugene Holloman also rushed for 89 yards and a touchdown, but was withheld from practice Tuesday and Wednesday due to a quadriceps injury.

His status is day-to-day going into Saturday's game, while sophomore tailback Jamal Sullivan started practicing again Tuesday and is also day-to-day. He wore a protective apparatus on his left hand to protect a



Holloman

thumb injury suffered in August.

The Minutemen are led by senior quarterback Liam Coen, CAA preseason offensive player of the year. Coen and Landers were two of 16 players named to the Walter Payton Award watch list, which is given at the end of the season to the best offensive player in the Football Championship Subdivision (formerly Division I-AA).

Matthews said the 6-foot-2, 225 pound signal-caller is hard to tackle, but Massachusetts' offensive line may be the biggest challenge for Madison. Four of five starters are listed at 300 pounds or heavier, with the exception of 295-pound right tackle Rob Getek.

"Their offensive line is so big, the field tilts over when they run out on the field," Matthews said. "I don't think I've ever seen an offensive line as large as theirs."

Massachusetts hit a field goal with time run-

ning out Saturday to edge Holy Cross 45-42, in a surprisingly close home game for the Minutemen. But Coen was sharp, accumulating 395 yards on 25-for-36 passing, including a 16-yard pass to receiver Jeremy Horne that brought Massachusetts to the Holy Cross 25-yard line with less than 30 seconds left in a game tied at 42.

"We did not play well in the first half," Brown said. "We were down 28-14 at one point, then came down and scored just before the half — 28-21 — came right out and tied it and played much better defensively in the second half."

Matthews and Brown both have big non-conference games to prepare for following their CAA debuts. Madison hosts Appalachian State on Sept. 20, while UMass travels to play Big 12 opponent Texas Tech.

But for both friends, Saturday's conference game trumps its encore.

Armstrong Back On Bike, To Race In 2009 Tour De France

By SALLY JENKINS
The Washington Post

Funny thing. Just a few days ago, I was e-mailing with Lance Armstrong about a mutual friend, precious to those who know him, who has come down with a sudden case of lung tumors. Lance responded as anyone who has gone to him on cancer matters has come to expect, with the name of an oncologist, a string of swear words at once seething and sympathetic, and a missive about how the "bastard" disease, as he often refers to it, is hard to beat and does not get proper federal attention. Then he added some typical Lance keystrokes. "Having said that, we don't care," he wrote. "Let's get to work."

There is no question Lance is an enigma, and his motives aren't always lucid to himself or those around him. Lying around the Caribbean in shorts

and flip-flops he stalks everywhere with a cell-phone plugged in his ear, the king of multitasking. He bought a Manhattan apartment, in part because he wanted a foothold in New York financial circles, a platform from which to raise really large sums of money for his foundation, which has kicked in more than \$265 million to the cancer fight. He's had breakfasts with Mayor Michael Bloomberg, and with Sen. Barack Obama.

We'll have to wait until then for him to enunciate his full motives for the comeback. But Lance is not someone prone to a hasty pell-mell decision because he misses the limelight. His Tour de France efforts, his foundation work, his political efforts, have all been characterized by meticulous planning until winning was a near certainty. At his peak, he combed every part of the bike, looking for extra seconds. He studied mountainsides, calculated his heart rate and

other physiological values, and decided on the numbers that he believed it would take to win the stage. And then he would hit them. He took immense pride that he reduced winning almost to a math problem, and believed he had "revolutionized" training.

His parting words after his last Tour victory was a shot at his doping accusers, "the cynics and skeptics," but while he was in retirement, the doping accusations continued to dog him, and gnaw at him. According to a Vanity Fair report, the comeback will in part be an answer to the accusations: He will subject himself to comprehensive new drug testing, and publish all the results daily on his Web site. He was 33 when he walked away, and he was proud of going out in his prime. He had a dread of losing, of winding up gasping on a hillside while other riders passed him. "At some point you turn 34, or you turn 35, the others

make a big step up, and when your age catches up, you take a big step down," he said. He didn't want to reach that point. "We are never going to know," if he could win another, he said.

But of course, retiring as an immortal didn't prevent Lance from aging. Nor did it apparently satisfy him — in fact, it's safe to say that if anything made him feel old and mortal. He's choosing to reembarck on an effort to win one of the most physically torturous sports events in the world, a 23-day festival of suffering. Why? Lance will have to explain that for himself, but my guess is that it has something to do with the fact that, having almost died once, he's determined to exhaust every last capacity in himself. He needs to work — physically work. It makes him feel healthy.

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PICKS OF THE WEEK

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The Breeze Editorial Staff and "Guest"

Overall	14-10	18-6	13-11	17-7	17-7
Last Week	6-6	9-3	5-7	11-1	9-3

GAME

	Matt	Wes	Tim	Megan	Erik	Anna
Colts at Vikings	Vikings	Colts	Colts	Colts	Colts	Colts
Saints at Redskins	Saints	Saints	Redskins	Redskins	Saints	Saints
Patriots at Jets	Jets	Jets	Pats	Jets	Pats	Jets
Eagles at Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys
Chargers at Broncos	Broncos	Chargers	Broncos	Chargers	Broncos	Chargers
Giants at Rams	Giants	Giants	Giants	Giants	Giants	Giants
Mass at JMU	JMU	UMass	UMass	JMU	JMU	UMass
Ohio State at USC	USC	USC	USC	USC	USC	USC
UCLA at BYU	UCLA	UCLA	BYU	BYU	UCLA	UCLA
Georgia at SC	UGA	UGA	UGA	UGA	UGA	UGA
GA Tech at VA Tech	VT	GA Tech	GA Tech	GA Tech	VT	VT
Michigan at ND	Michigan	Michigan	ND	Michigan	Michigan	Michigan

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PRANK: Is All In Good Fun

Prank, from page 11

best pranks that I don't think anyone even realized was one in the beginning where we take a picture of the tour group...and 15 minutes later in the tour, we're handing out flyers with the tour guide's face on it that says, 'Don't trust this person, they've been known to give false tours...' I don't know how many people actually realized that the picture had only been taken 15 minutes ago, and that we already developed a flyer and were passing it out in the commons."

Other favorites were the D-Hall scene as well as the final fight, where all the protagonists come together to duke it out and the tour concludes with students singing the JMU Fight Song.

2005 Prank-a-Tour was a huge success; so big that every prospective student on the tour ended up enrolling at JMU, and the boys geared up for another year in 2007. Unfortunately, a few unsuspected factors, including the remnants of a hurricane and a route change in the tour, had them switching around pranks just three days before the production. Although Adkins believes that it wasn't as successful as 2005, the boys still pulled it off and recruited

some more JMU students.

"The best one that I can say was from 2007... there was one kid, his mom went to [Virginia] Tech, his dad went to Tech and he was looking to go to Tech, but was on the JMU tour. We got an e-mail from his mom saying how great of a job we did, and how after the tour was over, her son wanted to go straight to the bookstore and get all his JMU stuff and that he was coming to JMU. That made my day."

Adkins and Joyce have always made sure that Prank-a-Tour is only beneficial for JMU.

"The biggest rule that we have in Prank-a-Tour, is to never do anything vulgar, obscene, or do anything to disrespect JMU or make the university look bad," Adkins said. "We want to make sure in passing it down that they are following the rules of not to do anything offensive towards anybody."

So with alumni Taylor Adkins and Ryan Joyce gone, who will take over their creation? Will there be a Prank-a-Tour 2009?

"There are people in line to take it over," Adkins said. "When and if it happens is really up to them. It is something we would hope would stay a tradition at JMU."

'One Kind Favor' is All Kinds of Refreshing

Idaho Argonaut

University of Idaho

BOISE — Every so often an album comes by that makes the ground move. B.B. King's newest album "One Kind Favor" isn't that — but that's something to savor about it. To list his discography would be a joke. King has been around longer than anyone. He's a force of nature. However, it's important to note that even in a stubborn genre like blues, King's style has changed significantly over the years in a way considered tragic by many. Luckily, that has all been corrected.

"One Kind Favor" isn't a reaction to the public. It's just the revitalization of introspective thought — the very thing that has driven blues since the beginning. The album is the octogenarian bluesman re-establishing a number of standards that King hasn't played before from artists including Blind Lemon Jefferson (from whom the title was derived), Lonnie Johnson and Leroy Carr. It's an intentional nostalgic look backward in King's career — way, way back — all the way to the '40s and '50s when he began recording.

However, those earlier works (including "Singin' the Blues" and "Lucille") are considered brilliant because of their youthful fervor. King has lost that, but he has a different catalog now. He's mature, and

his voice is strained and worn. There's also the sense that King has taken back what's rightfully his, something he has lost over the years: his individual artistic control over his albums. No longer is King allowing modern music production to drown his history out, to dictate his sound, to eclipse his eloquence or his personality (he's no longer forced into weird duets with Elton John or Sheryl Crow). "One Kind Favor" is King and the listener.

It's interesting to listen to titles from a time that is unimaginably distant for young listeners, but at the same time wasn't so long ago and still exists in the memory of many.

Blues is rooted. It has a home. King himself is thoroughly entrenched in that area and in blues history. If there is one thing that comes across in the new album more than anything else, it is King's return to that home. At long last, he's back. One sad note, though, doesn't directly come from any cut on "One Kind Favor." The album, after listening to it, had the dispiriting effect of hearing the swan songs of other titans like Johnny Cash in his September 2003 "American" recording sessions. Like his earlier works, King's blues from this album are ageless and perpetual: sweet, heartbreaking, foreign, familiar, drunken, sobering — everything that the blues should be. He's the King of Blues.

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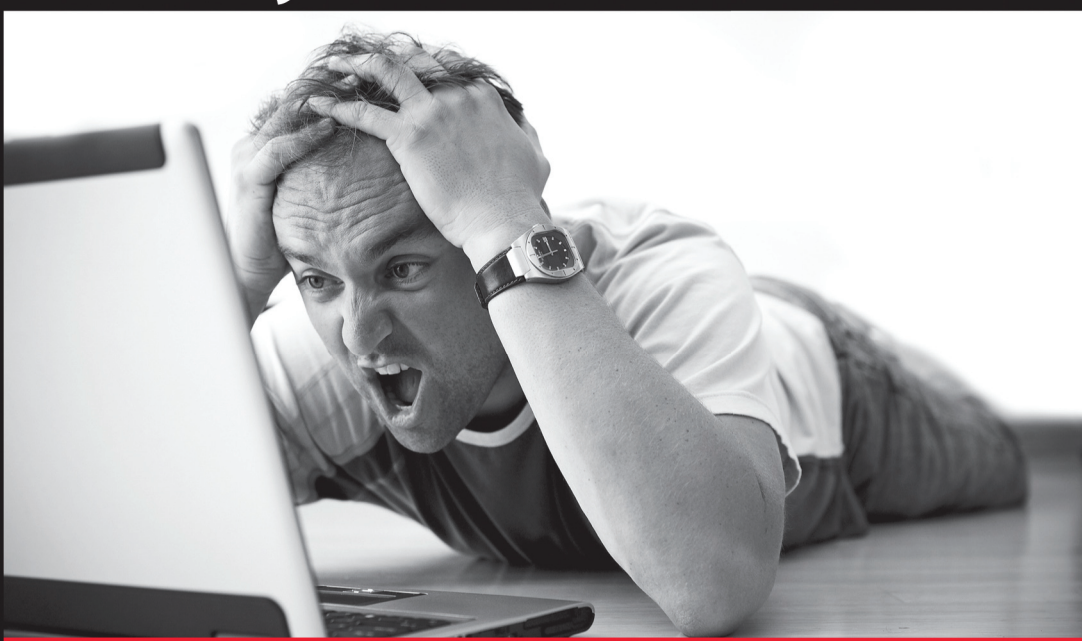
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PONG: 32 Countries, One Team On Top

Pong, from page 11
Pong career.

“My partner Ashwin Jaiprakash [from Virginia Tech] and I have been the underdog in every tournament and have never won a game,” Scruggs said. “But we keep playing for a chance to win that one game.”

Vatican City’s chance to do just that came this year, and the team not only won a game, but advanced to the final round.

“I don’t even know what to think right now! It’s so nerve-racking playing with all these guys and I can’t stop shaking,” Scruggs said after qualifying for finals. “There’s a high level of competition and it’s worth it because of all the effort the hosts put into it,” said Jaiprakash, a senior at Virginia Tech. “Winning a game in the tournament is so much more meaningful than winning a regular beer pong game.”

Playing in the tournament is both an honor and at times difficult, due to the number of people watching and the pressure to make every shot. According to senior Jamie Grandizio, a team Zimbabwe member, “you just have to shake it off and prepare for your next game.”

For team Barbados, winning is all about focus.

“You’ve got to focus for your game even if you start off a little slow,” seniors Neal Speas and Seth Pearman said. “Everyone here takes this tournament so seriously.”

According to senior Liz Johnson, a team Brazil member, “It’s the love of the game” that pulls her and her partner senior Megan Malacarne through.

Senior Matt Normandy and team Belgium partner Dan Carroll both agree.

“The tournament means so much to us and to win the whole thing would be an honor,” said Normandy. “Beer pong is a favorite college hobby of mine and this tournament is the coolest social event I’ve ever heard of.”

Not only do the four seniors host the event twice a year, but they’ve taken the art of crafting a beer pong tournament to a whole new level.

World Cup Culture

To start, an official World Cup of Beer Pong table was designed for the event by all four hosts and drawn by Kinnally. The royal purple table outlined in gold, features a trophy, a set of six Solo Cups and the body outline of two players, one male and one

female, drawn to look as though they’re playing the game.

The idea to have a trophy featured on the center of the table was decided after the four hosts purchased a real trophy which has been engraved and is given to the champions of the tournament each semester. All previous winners of the tournament are also recognized and have earned a spot on the table with their names, country’s flag and the semester and year they won. This catches the eye of all participants hoping they’ll be the next team added to the table.

If winning a trophy, getting your name on the official World Cup table and gaining bragging rights weren’t enough, these four gentlemen also record statistics for each player, present six additional awards at the end of each tournament and have recently created a Web site.

“We record and count the number of shots each player takes, how many cups they make, number of last cups they make, number of rebuttals, number of ‘dubs,’ or bring-backs and the number of eye-to-eyes,” said Devlin, who is the official stat-man when he’s not playing. “I have a special stat sheet I made to record information and Schwee has a spreadsheet he made on Excel that automatically adds up each player’s stats.”

Spencer said: “In the real World Cup, they have the Golden Boot for the player with the most goals and in order to have something along those lines we created the Golden Ball Award for whoever makes the most cups. We’ve recently added other awards too.”

They include an Eye-to-Eye Award, a Dubs Award, a Savior Award for most rebuttals, a Marksman Award for the player who made the most last cups, a Silver Ball Award given to the player with the second best efficiency score based on the stats, and the Golden Ball Award given to the player with the best overall efficiency.

Devlin said the creation of the Web site “was a great way to facilitate interactions and allow for the players to feel more involved.”

The Web site officially launched last spring and has many features. Each team has a profile page, stats from previous tournaments and articles written by people playing in the tournament. There is also a Hall of Fame section for all the players who’ve won awards, as well as a forum for people to interact and discuss games and upcoming matches, said Devlin, the site’s designer.



NICKI METCALF/contributing photographer

The three-day beer pong tournament attracts students from all over the country. This semester’s winners were Virginia Tech seniors Matt Delbridge and Tony Christian, of team Iceland. They played team Switzerland for the title. Delbridge and Christian will have their names immortalized on the special tournament table.

As if their attention to detail could not become any more refined, these four students have also designed a pong ball for each team to use during the tournament.

“There are official game balls during the real World Cup and we wanted to incorporate that in the tournament somehow,” Spencer said. “So that’s why we came up with each team having their own specialized ball with their country’s flag and the country’s official FIFA abbreviation.”

For Schwee, Spencer, Kinnally and Devlin being able to host an event like this has become one of the major highlights of their college careers.

“Being a host for the tournament is pretty sweet,” Kinnally said. “It’s great having it at our place and just seeing how it’s grown.”

“I can’t really think of anyone else outside this apartment that would be able to carry out a tournament with the amount of creativity and organization that my roommates have put into it,” he said.

Spencer added: “People really appreciate what we do. The tournaments aren’t just about drinking; they’re about having fun and being in a real competition. Playing in the tournament is all about pride and being known as one of the elite players at this school.”

Tournament Rules:

TEAMS: 32 teams, two people to a team, four groups, eight teams to a group
DAYS: Entire tournament is three days long: first two groups play Friday night, remainder of groups play on Saturday afternoon, and the top two teams from each group advance to World Cup Finals on Sunday
POINT SYSTEM: A win gives a team three points, a loss gives a team zero points
CHANCES: By playing every other team in the group, all teams have three separate chances to earn enough points to advance. The two teams with the most points advance to the final round.
TIE: If a tie occurs, a shoot-out takes place
WINNER: The top 16 teams play in a single-elimination tournament during finals in order to determine the champions.

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Honor by August



COLUMBINE: Students Came Together After Tragic Event

Columbine, from page 3

Rachel had drawn roses in her journal before, but all of them came out of a Columbine flower. In that particular picture, she drew the rose coming out of the ground.

Rachel drew this a half-hour before she died.

Darrell called Frank back after seeing the picture and faxed him a copy. Craig played an interview of Frank and his reaction, and Frank said he showed his family the picture and they cried.

Her journals connected her family with people she had never met before. But more than that they were able to connect with Rachel herself.

Little Kind Acts

Scott said before his sister's death, he was just like every other student at school. He followed his cliqué, and only his cliqué. He was the average guy trying to be popular, but he says his sister taught him how he should treat other people.

"I was embarrassed by Rachel when she reached out to people at school," Scott said.

He told the audience of one instance when a young man named Adam was having a hard time at school. Some older boys were picking on him and Rachel stepped in the middle of them and said, "If you are going to mess with him, you are going to have to mess with me first."

The boys left him alone and he and Rachel became good friends from it. The Foundation for a Better Life even used that situation as inspiration for a commercial.

Scott also gave the example of the time Rachel befriended a new girl at school. The girl's mother had just passed away and she was sitting at a table by herself at lunch. Rachel went to talk to her and ask her to join their table. The girl said, "No, I'm fine" so Rachel left. But five minutes later, Rachel asked her friends to move beside the new girl and they did.

"She turned her worst day at school into her best," Scott said.

Scott said that after the shootings they didn't return to their old high school for a while. But once they did, he said the whole scene changed. He described walking into the lunchroom that day and seeing football players with band students, who were mixed in with skateboarders. Scott said if all schools would act this way, so much violence could be prevented.

Students at Columbine understood that every student needed friends and Scott said the difference in everyone was amazing. Scott said he thought all the two shooters needed were good friends.

"I don't think the two shooters were evil," Scott said. "I think they had good in them. They just needed people to bring it out."

■ Read the last installment of Scott's story in Monday's issue.

Want to write for *The Breeze*? E-mail us at breezenews@gmail.com!



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A Unique Perspective



photo courtesy of **BRITTANY MARKS**

One student creatively uses her shades to see the sun setting on Festival lawn.

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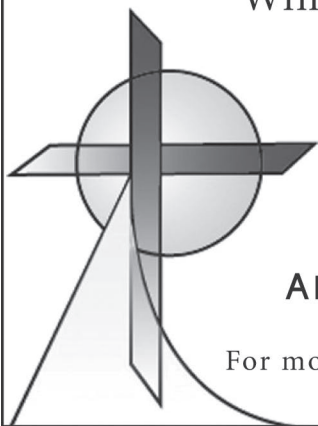
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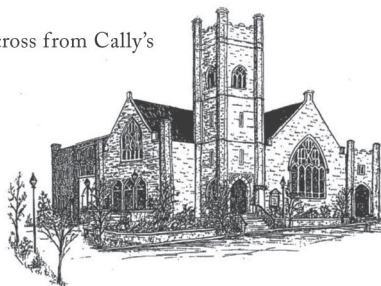
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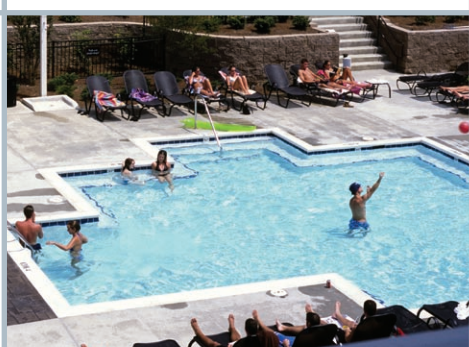


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